

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
Group Art Unit 1762

In re

Patent Application of

Gerald F. Hein, et. al.

Application No. 09/781,378

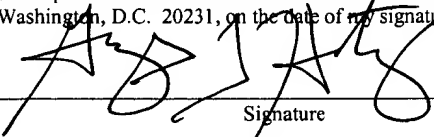
Confirmation No. 1645

Filed: February 12, 2001

Examiner: Bret Chen

"PROCESS FOR FORMING DECORATIVE  
FILMS AND RESULTING PRODUCTS"

I, Gregory J. Hartwig, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the US Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date of my signature.

  
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Signature  
4/7/03  
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Date of Signature

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Friday  
5/3/03

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

This responds to the Office action mailed November 7, 2002, for which a response was due February 7, 2003. A request for a two-month extension of time is being filed herewith, thereby extending the deadline for responding to the action to April 7, 2003.

Applicants respectfully request a telephonic interview with the Examiner after he has had an opportunity to review this response, but before he issues a final Office action.

Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Amended Once) A process for depositing a film onto a bare or unplated zinc or zinc alloy substrate, the process comprising:
- directly depositing a film onto a portion of the substrate by physical vapor deposition, the film being a metal film, a ceramic film or a combination thereof,
- wherein the metal film includes chromium, nickel, titanium, zirconium or a combination thereof, and wherein the ceramic film includes a nitride, a carbide, an oxide or a nitroxide or chromium, nickel, titanium, zirconium or a combination thereof.

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APR 28 2003  
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